



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention (CDC)  
Atlanta GA 30333

February 22, 2019

Emmanuel Freudenthal  
MuckRock News DEPT MR 62280  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144  
Via email: 62280-02893661@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Mr. Freudenthal:

This letter is our final response to your Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of October 12, 2018, assigned #19-00245-FOIA, for:

- 1 - Any photos taken during the mission to transport Ebola blood samples from Liberia to the US towards the end of 2016. This includes photos by employees as part of their work on this official mission, or photos by third party contractors.
- 2 - Any contracts or agreements with Phoenix Air to supply their services for the mission to transport Ebola blood samples from Liberia to the US towards the end of 2016 (signed by any institution such as CDC, DTRA, NIH, etc).
- 3 - Any contracts or agreements with Sandia that you have at hand from 01 July 2013 and today regarding their work in Liberia (signed by any institution such as CDC, DTRA, NIH, etc).
- 4 - Any Chain of Custody documents signed for the shipping of any Ebola blood samples from Liberia to the USA between 01/01/16 and 31 December 17.
- 5 - Any documents with information linked to blood samples that were transported from Liberia to the US from 01/01/17 to 01/11/17 (e.g. the name of the patient, their origin, their gender, their clinical signs etc). I do not require individual documents as I understand that the private information of patients cannot be disclosed. Please feel free to redact that personal information from any documents that contain lists. In case there are many documents that pertain to single individuals with the sample templates, then please provide one of each of the types of documents as a template.
- 6 - The agreement between Liberia and the US (signed by the Ambassador of the US in Liberia) signed around September 2016 for the transport of Ebola blood samples from Liberia to the US.
- 7 - Any inventory of Ebola blood samples held by the US that were brought from Liberia, including samples held at Fort Detrick and Rocky Mountain Lab.

On December 15, 2018, you withdrew Item #3 of your request via email.

On December 18, 2018, you specified that for Item #2, you seek the following contracts: 75D30118P00787; HHSD200200615147I; HHSD2002012M50736P; HHSD2002014674P; HHSD2002014675P.

On January 15, 2019, we sent you a letter informing you that the numbers of the final two contracts listed above were incomplete and full numbers were needed in order for staff to search. We did not receive a response from you.

No records were located by the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases for Item #1 of your search.

For Item #2 of your request, the scope of work and/or dates for the contract numbers you provided did not match the description of the records you seek, namely the “mission to transport Ebola blood samples from Liberia to the US towards the end of 2016.” Therefore, we have no records responsive to this item of your request.

You withdrew Item #3 of your request.

No records pertaining to Items #4 and #5 were located by the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases.

We located three (3) pages of responsive records for Item #7 of your request. After a careful review of these pages, no information was withheld from release.

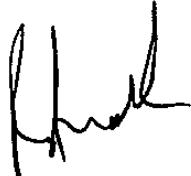
One document (four [4] pages) belonging to the U.S. Department of State (DOS) was located for Item #6 of your request). In accordance with the Department's implementing regulations, CDC does not make decisions on the release or denial of other agencies' documents. We have referred your request and the record to DOS for their release determination and direct reply to you. You may contact them directly about this record:

U. S. Department of State  
Office of Information Programs and Services  
A/GIS/IPS/RL  
SA-2, Suite 8100  
Washington, D. C. 20522-0208  
FOIA Requester Service Center (FRSC): (202) 261-8484

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at 770-488-6277 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, Suite 729H, Washington, D.C. 20201. Please mark both your appeal letter and envelope “FOIA Appeal.” Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted by May 23, 2019.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Andoh".

Roger Andoh  
CDC/ATSDR FOIA Officer  
Office of the Chief Operating Officer  
(770) 488-6399  
Fax: (404) 235-1852

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